

Message Text

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COMMERCE FOR ITA/BED/OIM/SAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, KU
SUBJECT: WATER RESOURCES TRADE MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA
AND YEMEN

REF: USDOC 9578

1. UPON RECENT RECEIPT MATERIAL ON DR. SEIFERT'S COMPANY, WE CONTACTED NUMBER OF AGENCIES TO ASCERTAIN AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AND THEIR RECEPTIVITY TO DR. SEIFERT'S VISIT. IT NOW APPEARS THAT KUWAIT ONLY JUSTIFIES A BRIEF VISIT BY DR. SEIFERT, IF THAT. THERE IS NO AGRICULTURAL RURAL AREA IN KUWAIT WHICH WOULD INVOLVE PLANNING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES. KUWAIT'S URBAN AREA HAS BEEN PLANNED, RE-PLANNED, AND RE-RE-PLANNED BY NUMBER OF CONSULTANTS, INCLUDING SRI, WHICH HAS JUST FINISHED MASSIVE STUDY. KUWAIT MUNICIPALITY HAS IN-HOUSE AMERICAN PLANNING STAFF LED BY FORMER PROFESSOR OF URBAN DESIGN. WE CAN ARRANGE FOR DR. SEIFERT TO CALL AT MINISTRY OF PLANNING TO HAVE HIS FIRM ENTERED ON REGISTRY OF CONSULTANTS, BUT THAT IS ABOUT IT, AS KEY PLANNING MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE ALREADY LEFT KUWAIT AT START OF TRADITIONAL
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SUMMER EXODUS AS HOT WEATHER SETS IN.

2. DR. SEIFERT MIGHT HAVE FOUND WORTHWHILE VISIT TO ARAB PLANNING INSTITUTE, WHICH HAS REGIONAL TRAINING ROLE, BUT KEY OFFICIAL THERE, THE DIRECTOR, IS OUT OF COUNTRY, AS IS KEY CONTACT AT KUWAIT INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, ANOTHER ORGANIZATION AT WHICH WE MIGHT HAVE ARRANGED CALLS.

3. POLICY LEVEL OFFICIALS AT KUWAIT FUND AND ARAB FUND DO NOT, AS A MATTER OF OFFICIAL POLICY, MEET WITH CONSULTANTS. WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH VARIOUS EXPATRIATE ECONOMISTS AND ENGINEERS AT THESE FUNDS, BUT DOUBT THAT SUCH CALLS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL.

4. GIVEN THAT FACT THAT HE IS IN THE AREA, DR. SEIFERT MAY STILL WISH TO COME TO KUWAIT, BUT IF HE DOES SO, WE SUGGEST HE LIMIT HIS VISIT TO ONE OR TWO WORKING DAYS (SAY JUNE 17-18), RATHER THAN PERIOD THROUGH JUNE 21 AS ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED.

5. DR. SEIFERT WILL FIND MUCH MORE TO SEE IN SANA ON THE THURSDAY/FRIDAY WEEKEND THAN IN KUWAIT, BUT WE REALIZE THAT PLANE SCHEDULES MAY NOT GIVE HIM THE OPTION OF ARRIVING IN KUWAIT ON FRIDAY EVENING OR SATURDAY MORNING.

6. WE DO NOT PLAN TO MAKE ANY APPOINTMENTS IN ADVANCE, BUT IF DR. SEIFERT COULD INFORM US OF WHETHER HE STILL PLANS TO VISIT KUWAIT AND HIS ETA AND ETD, THIS WOULD HELP.

SUTHERLAND

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